

Based Upon: PCT/IT00/00053

each in correspondence with a side face to accept hinged elements, the improvement comprising: each of said universal joints forming a groove along each side of a face forming the four seats, proximate to and parallel to a corresponding edge of each said side, which cooperate with a C-sectioned fixing element to hold united two matching said universal joints from the two coupled structures.

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2. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 1, wherein the at least two coupled structures are superimposed and, in an inside surface of the face of the universal joint having said four seats, forming a fifth seat in which is fixed an extremity of an extendible telescopic tubular element whose other extremity is fixed to an opposed universal joint.

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3. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 1, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element is a substantially rectangular sheet of flexible material having two opposite folded and inverted edges.

4. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 1, wherein a folded and inverted edge of the C-sectioned fixing element has a dimension

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and a shape corresponding to the groove on each said side of the face of the universal joint.

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p 5* 5. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 1, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element is applied only on each external face of the universal joints that are on an external surface of the structure.

6. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 1, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element covers a substantial portion of a corresponding side face of superimposed universal joints and forms cut-outs corresponding to the seats for the hinged extended elements.

7. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 1, wherein matching faces of the universal joints of the joined structures forms at least one suitable perforation housing pivots that prevent any movement on a contact surface of the universal joints.

8. (Amended) In a universal joint of substantially parallelepiped form forming four hinging seats in one of a larger face in correspondence with each

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side face, suitable for fixing an extremity of an extended element, each side of the larger face having said four hinging seats forming a groove proximate to and parallel to a corresponding edge of each said side, adapted to cooperate with a C-sectioned fixing element to unite two matched said universal joints.

9. (Amended) A universal joint according to Claim 8, wherein said larger face forms in an internal surface, a fifth seat into which is fixed the extremity of an extendible telescopic tubular element.

~~Please add the following new claims:~~

10. (New) A composite structure according to Claim 2, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element is a substantially rectangular sheet of flexible material having two opposite folded and inverted edges.

11. (New) A composite structure according to Claim 2, wherein a folded and inverted edge of the C-sectioned fixing element has a dimension and a shape corresponding to the groove on each said side of the face of the universal joint.

Sub 56 12. (New) A composite structure according to Claim 10, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element is applied only on each external face of the universal joints that are on an external surface of the structure.

13. (New) A composite structure according to Claim 11, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element is applied only on each external face of the universal joints that are on an external surface of the structure.

14. (New) A composite structure according to Claim 10, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element covers a substantial portion of a corresponding side face of superimposed universal joints and forms cut-outs corresponding to the seats for the hinged extended elements.

15. (New) A composite structure according to Claim 11, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element covers a substantial portion of a corresponding side face of superimposed universal joints and forms cut-outs corresponding to the seats for the hinged extended elements.

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16. (New) A composite structure according to Claim 14, wherein matching faces of the universal joints of the joined structures forms at least one suitable perforation housing pivots that prevent any movement on a contact surface of the universal joints.

17. (New) A composite structure according to Claim 15, wherein matching faces of the universal joints of the joined structures forms at least one suitable perforation housing pivots that prevent any movement on a contact surface of the universal joints.

On a separate page, please add the following: **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE.**

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